

The Stouffville Tribune

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Notes and Comments

"An Army Travels on It's Stomach"

It was Napoleon who said that "an army travels on it's stomach," and well said it was. The Old War Horse of other days might well have gone further and said that a community travels on it's stomach. Stouffville is finding this out these days when restaurant conditions are so bad that people avoid our town around lunch time. We are not as hospitable as we once were, and we are very conscious of the fact. So far the Lions' Club and the business men who have given the matter much thought have arrived at no solution.

We have but one restaurant and it is not in a position to cope with the various types of customers who eat at restaurants, while the second restaurant has been closed for a year and can scarcely be called a restaurant any more.

We have the Mansion House too which can scarcely be called a hotel since it serves no meals, thus the travelling public receive short shift at our hands.

It's not because we do not want to serve the public at meal time, but circumstances are such that the business man cannot do much about it. Restaurant people, plenty of them, have an eye on Stouffville as a place for them to locate, but all are barred because there is no place to establish an eating house. Only vacant place in the town for business is the former Bank of Nova Scotia building, which strangely enough is not rented.

Stouffville Lions Club dealt with this matter at their first meeting since they, like the travelling public, are eating at the curb and literally from hand to mouth just now. Last year the Lions even went to Markham village to feed up on one or two occasions.

Stouffville is under built in its business section, and a situation like this, further emphasizes the need for another business block of not too large proportions.

You will note that this Editorial fails to feed the hungry, and merely reiterates a situation that our people are already familiar with. Until it is solved an army of business men cannot travel to our town around meal time because it is true that an army travels on its stomach.

Local Industries Needed Badly

The Farmer's Advocate champions well the cause of the small town and its claim to a share in the work of industry in the following:

"Copying our United States cousins Canada has placed so much emphasis on bigness that towns and villages are stripped of local industries and everything is concentrated in the industrial centres of Central Canada, much to the detriment of the nation and to the population at large. Once thriving centres in Old Ontario are now little better than ghost towns. Most of the big industries of the Maritime Provinces have been sucked into Toronto and Montreal, and anything produced on the Prairies is loaded on to freight cars and sent thousands of miles away to be processed and consumed.

On paper it may look well to concentrate industry in big centres where labour is available, power is plentiful and shipping facilities are best. The factors, economists say, determines where industries will be located. Apparently we have listened to the economists and ignored all the other factors that combine to make life pleasant and worth while.

In the grand new world that is to come after the war all the products possible should be processed near the scene of production and employment thus created so a much larger percentage of the population can live and work in clean, thriving local centres far from the maddening crowd."

Registration of Threshing Machines Cancelled

It is not necessary for the owner or operator of a threshing machine, including a combine, to register it the year before starting threshing. The section of the Weed Control Act which previously made registration compulsory, has been rescinded. The Act worked badly and farmers complained against it bitterly. Result was the law was seldom carried out, and so the legislature got rid of the thing.

Legislation with respect to the cleaning of the threshing machine and equipment before moving, however, still remains in the Weed Control Act. This section states as follows: "Every person in possession or charge of any machine used for threshing shall, before removing such machine or any equipment used in connection therewith, to another farm, or before travelling upon any public roadway, clean or cause the same to be cleaned thoroughly both inside and out, by the removal of all seeds and other crop refuse."

A threshing machine which has not been cleaned before it is moved will carry seeds on to clean lanes, roadsides and neighboring farms, mixing of varieties will occur and smut and other seed borne diseases will be carried from farm to farm.

Farmers are urged not to risk contamination of farm and crops by permitting a threshing machine to enter the farm gate in an unclean condition. When engaging your thresher insist that the machine and equipment be thoroughly cleaned.

Weakness of Price Fixing

The Family Herald and Weekly Star, one of Canada's leading agricultural publications, is not impressed with the value of the farm floor price legislature passed in the House of Commons the other day declares the Financial Post. It refers to this policy as a "hollow front" and asks in its stead legislature guaranteeing parity prices. Says The Family Herald:

"What farmers and fishermen really want is a guarantee that 100 gallons of milk or 100 lbs. of halibut will always buy 100 units of farm machinery or groceries or gasoline or clothes. But if milk and fish prices stay at their floors while the other prices soar then 100 units of farm products may buy only 90 or 70 or 50 units of other products."

We think many farmers and farm publications will agree with The Family Herald that floor price policy is impractical but it is extremely doubtful whether the solution our contemporary offers would be any more workable.

The trouble is that the goods to be exchanged are not static and especially those which the farmer wishes to secure. Two hundred and fifty bushels of wheat might be a fair exchange for a binder today, but would it be for a vastly improved binder of five years from now?

There is absolutely no comparison between many of the combination and power-driven farm machines on the market today with those single operation affairs of 10 years ago, and there is good reason to believe that there will be even more evolution in the next decade. It would be extremely difficult if not impossible to devise and operate a parity price scheme flexible enough to cover such development.

That illustrates one weakness of the parity price idea. There is another and even more serious one and it also applies to the floor price policy.

So far as agriculture is concerned it is vital to our prosperity to have a large export market. We must export two-thirds of our wheat and a very large proportion of our pork, beef, cheese and fruit. We can only do this if our customers scattered throughout the world are satisfied with the prices asked. They, and not some board at Ottawa, will decide what is a reasonable price, what is a fair exchange in their surplus goods for our wheat or bacon or our cheese. True, we can refuse to sell or trade—we did that once with wheat about a dozen years ago—but the result may be far from pleasant.

Instead of worrying about keeping future farm and other prices jacked up to some artificial level, it might be better if we concentrated on keeping costs down so that in natural lines of production Canadian goods can meet world competition.

EDITOR'S MAIL

52 Beatty Avenue,
 Ajax, Ont.

Dear Sir;

Permit me to offer you my congratulations on the editorial that appeared in The Tribune. I am sure if more editorials of this nature were to appear in the daily and weekly press, our provincial and federal governments may be more willing to substitute free hospitalization and other services for the Family Allowances. Free hospitalization is badly needed for a more healthy Canada. The baby bonus has turned out to be a political scandal which is no tribute to the boys and girls in the Armed Forces.

Yours,
 A Subscriber.

WILL NEED HORSES FOR EUROPE'S FARMS

Canadian breeding stock may play a large part in re-building the livestock herds of Europe when the war is over. Particularly in the restoration of farm power, the horse will be required, and some idea of the coming demand for horses may be gained from the estimates of the declining numbers of horses in the various countries since the war began. It is estimated that the numbers of horses in Britain, Holland, and Belgium have been reduced by half, in Russia by one-third, and that only one-third of the original number of horses has been left in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and Greece. Germany, by plundering other Nations, is believed to have as many horses, if not more, than when the war began. However, say the authorities, the task of supplying farm power to help in the restoration of agriculture in the devastated countries is going to be a tremendous one and is expected to result in a strong demand for Canadian horses for some time to come.

WHAT IS HOME?

Eight hundred replies came to a London magazine which asked the question: "What is home?" These answers were written by persons representing all classes. Seven were selected and published:

"Home—A world of strife shut out, a world of love shut in."

"Home—The place where the small are great, and the great are small."

"Home—The father's kingdom, the mother's world, and the children's paradise."

"Home—The place where we grumble the most and are treated the best."

"Home—The centre of our affection round which our heart's best wishes twine."

"Home—The place where our stomachs get three square meals a day and our hearts a thousand."

"Home—The only place on earth where the faults and failures of humanity are hidden under the sweet mantle of charity."

Perhaps you can add a better definition.

SUNDAY SICKNESS

We are indebted to Rev. D. Macgregor for the following clipping taken from the Chicago Tribune, an item in which ministers would naturally be interested, since it is in their flock that the disease mentioned runs contagious, and the minister is most keen to perceive it:

"Morbus Sabbaticus." A Sunday illness peculiar to churchgoers; symptoms vary, but never interfere with normal appetite; attack never lasts more than twenty-four hours; physician never needed; intermittent attacks at first, then

chronic, malignant, and fatal—in order named.

The attacks come suddenly every Sunday morning; no symptoms felt Saturday night; patient sleeps well until late Sunday, eats hearty breakfast, but about Churchtime complains and feels the disease coming on. Difficulty passes just in time for patient to eat hearty dinner and go for an afternoon walk, or auto ride. Similar occurrence comes at time of evening Church services.

Patient sleeps well on Sunday night and has no further signs of symptoms until the following Sunday morning.

MEN and WOMEN ARE URGENTLY NEEDED NOW!

to save essential food crops now ready for harvesting

- TOMATO PICKERS - Aug. 15 to Oct. 1
- PEACH PICKERS - Aug. 15 to Sept. 23
- APPLE PICKERS - Sept. 15 to Oct. 20
- GRAPE PICKERS - Sept. 15 to Oct. 31

One-way transportation paid those who will work a minimum of one month.

Return transportation paid to those who remain until the end of picking season.

Pleasant outdoor work with good wages and an opportunity to serve on the food front are available to hundreds of men and women of Ontario . . . now.

APPLY AT ONCE IN PERSON OR MAIL THIS COUPON

Ontario Farm Service Force,
 Parliament Buildings, TORONTO.

I AM A VOLUNTEER FOR THE FOOD FRONT

Name.....
 Address.....
 Telephone..... Age.....
 Dates Available— From.....
 To.....
 W-558

Send The Tribune to absent friends

ONTARIO FARMERS 1000 MEN WANTED Now!

THIS is an appeal to THE FARMERS OF ONTARIO. The Packing Plants of Ontario, which process and ship your livestock for export, ARE SERIOUSLY SHORT OF MEN. Every available Farmer of Ontario is urged to offer his services for employment in one of the Packing Plants in this province as soon as the essential work of the farm is completed. OVER 1,000 men are required to start in the month of September alone. Good hourly wages will be paid. Transportation to the plant will be provided. Assistance will be given in arranging board and room.

With full staffs, the Packing Plants of Canada have ample capacity to handle even the tremendously increased numbers of cattle, sheep and swine, which Canadian farmers have ready for market this year. When operating to capacity the Packing Plants can keep the market cleared and livestock can be slaughtered, processed and shipped at its most profitable time, when it is at its market peak. Thus, losses which occur when animals are held beyond the peak—through additional feeding costs, through falling away from peak condition and through the danger to price structures when supply threatens to exceed demand—are avoided.

Last year several hundred Ontario farmers volunteered for work in the plants in processing their own products and protecting their own interests. Production for export this year has increased by 40%. Available man-power has shrunk by 28%.

The Ontario Farm Service Force, in conjunction with Employment and Selective Service has undertaken the task of raising sufficient help from Ontario Farmers to keep Packing Plants operating to capacity this year. This department of the Ontario government's Department of Agriculture feels that this extension of its service is as vitally important to the interests of the farmers of this province as anything it has yet undertaken. The need of meat as a primary essential food to our Allied Armies, to the people of Great Britain and to the starving millions in countries being liberated by our victorious armies, is the basic consideration. In addition, efficient operation in the processing and marketing of livestock is necessary in protecting the greatest export market ever opened to Canadian farmers.

Your services are needed from now until spring. If you cannot devote that full period of time, a month or more will be of great assistance.

OFFER YOUR SERVICES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If you cannot go to work at once, call or write, stating that you will come, and at what date you will be available. Remember you will be serving your own best interests as well as playing a vital patriotic part in serving your country.

For full information or offering your services, apply in person, phone or write to your nearest office of

EMPLOYMENT AND SELECTIVE SERVICE

or write to THE ONTARIO FARM SERVICE FORCE

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, TORONTO

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